

FACULTY OF MUSIC  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

# **Thursday Noon Series**

**12:10 pm • WALTER HALL**  
**EDWARD JOHNSON BUILDING**

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LESLEY ROBERTSON, viola

GAIL NIWA, piano

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1988

WALTER HALL

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## PROGRAM

Sonata Rhapsody

Jean Coulthard  
(b. 1908)

Variations, Op. 11

Jacques Hétu  
(b. 1938)

Sonata, Op. 11, No. 4

Paul Hindemith  
(1895-1963)

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This tour is sponsored by the  
S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition.  
Brandon, Manitoba.

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LESLEY ROBERTSON, a native of Edmonton, is the 1988 winner of the Eckhardt-Gramatté National Music Competition for the performance of Canadian music. She studied with Gerald Stanick at the University of British Columbia, and is a recent graduate of the Curtis Institute, where she worked under Michael Tree and Karen Tuttle. Miss Robertson currently attends the Juilliard School as a scholarship student in the Master of Music degree program.

Miss Robertson has participated in numerous competitions and festivals: as a soloist, she has performed with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra, Johannesen International Festival Orchestra, and Calgary Philharmonic Ensemble.

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Pianist GAIL NIWA made her orchestral debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at the age of eight, and has since performed with orchestras and given recitals in several major centres in the United States. Her advanced study was with Adele Marcus at the Juilliard School, where she received her Master of Music degree in 1982. Miss Niwa captured the Best Accompanist Award at the 1986 Tchaikovsky International Violin Competition in Moscow, and second prize at the prestigious Whitaker Competition in St. Louis in 1987.

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## NOTES

### **Sonata Rhapsody for Viola and Piano**

**JEAN COULTHARD**

This piece was the "required repertoire", viola, for the 1988 Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition. The composer has written this note: "The title explains the improvisatory and indeed virtuoso style of the piece - a veritable tour de force. The dramatic 'Allegro con Forza' demonstrates the chamber qualities of the instrument though relieved, of course, by lyric passages. 'Interlude in May' is much gentler -- written one perfectly beautiful early summer (in appreciation of my garden). 'Allegro con Brio,' the final movement, rounds out the work with a wild rhapsodic finish."

### **Variations, Op. 11 for Solo Viola**

**JACQUES HÉTU**

This piece was the "required repertoire" for the 1977 Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition. At that time, the composer supplied the following analytical note: "The work consists of a theme and five variations. The theme, marked 'sostenuto', itself very ornate, takes the form of an ascending and descending melodic curve. The first two variations preserve the underlying spirit of the theme, while contrasting the upper and lower registers of the solo instrument. The third variation, somewhat more elaborate, takes the form of a 'Scherzo' -- in fact there are two variations in one -- trills and tremolos in the 'scherzo' and repeated notes in the 'trio' section. The fourth variation, very calm, treats the theme polyphonically; the last variation, an 'accelerando e crescendo', leads to an abridged and final statement of the theme."

### **Sonata for Viola and Piano, Op. 11, No. 4**

**PAUL HINDEMITH**

This highly ingratiating work consists of a fantasy followed by a theme with seven variations, which are divided so as to give the sonata three movements. Despite the constant restless modulations, the feeling is distinctly tonal and the progressions occasionally suggest modal influences.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 6**

### **THURSDAY NOON SERIES FILM**

**Masters of the Performing Arts: Maureen Forrester**

The Chairman of the Canada Council is seen performing, practicing and teaching .... sharing her vast talent with aspiring young singers

### **Big and the Blues**

Clarence "Big" Miller plays the trombone and shouts the blues

12:10 pm                      Walter Hall                      Free

**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 15**

### **U OF T Day -- OPEN HOUSE**

Special displays and chamber music performances in the main lobby

10 am to 4 pm                      Free

**SUNDAY,  
OCTOBER 16**

### **FACULTY RECITAL SERIES**

Denis Brott, cello performs with special guests, including Evan Drachman --- cellist and grandson of Piatigorsky --- in a program entitled "Tribute to Gregor Piatigorsky". Each of the works on the program has been composed or arranged by or for this great cellist; proceeds from this concert will establish a new scholarship at the Faculty of Music in Piatigorsky's name.

2 pm                      Walter Hall

\$12/\$7 students, seniors

Subscription series: \$27/\$15

**THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 20**

### **THURSDAY NOON SERIES RECITAL**

Pianist John Arpin presents "A Tribute to Irving Berlin"

12:10 pm                      Walter Hall                      Free

**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 22**

### **U of T Symphony Orchestra**

Michel Tabachnik, conductor

Tchaikovsky                      Symphony No. 5

Canteloube                      Songs of the Auvergne

Rayanne Dupuis, soprano

Xenakis                      Empreintes

8 pm                      MacMillan Theatre

\$9/\$6 students, seniors

Subscription series: \$20/\$12